What is claimed is:

Claim 1. A method for extrusion coating a lightweight web comprising:

feeding a length of a lightweight web along with a length of carrier web to an extruder with the lightweight web atop the carrier web;

extruding a polymer film coating onto the lightweight web and carrier web in the extruder so that a surface of the lightweight web is coated by the extruded coating to provide an extrusion-coated lightweight web; and

separating the extrusion-coated lightweight web from the carrier web.

Claim 2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web has a width less than the width of the carrier web and is affixed to the carrier web by the polymer film coating.

Claim 3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web exhibits deformations when subjected to a tension of about 0.5 pli or less.

Claim 4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the polymer film coating comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene (LDPE), polyolefin plastomers (POP), polyolefin elastomers (POE), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), high density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene (PP), ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer (EMA), ethylene butyl acrylate copolymer (EnBA), ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA), ethylene acrylic acid copolymer (EAA), ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer (EMAA), ionomoers, ethylene vinyl alcohol (EVOH), polyesters such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyamides, and one or more of the foregoing.

Claim 5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web is a nonwoven fabric.

Claim 6. The method of Claim1 wherein the lightweight web is a paper web.

Claim 7. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web is a metal foil.

Claim 8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web has a MD curl of less than about 3 inches as measured by TAPPI UM 427.

Claim 9. The method of Claim 1 wherein the lightweight web has insufficient strength properties in the absence of the underlying carrier web to withstand forces imposed upon it in an extruder coating station.

Claim 10. The method of Claim 1 wherein the carrier web is a heavyweight web.

Claim 11. The method of Claim 1 wherein the carrier web is a second lightweight web.

Claim 12. The method of Claim 1 wherein the polymer film coating comprises a coextrusion of at least two layers of polymer films.

Claim 13. A coated web product comprising:

a lightweight web; and

a polymer coating extrusion coated thereon wherein the lightweight web is substantially undeformed.

Claim 14. The product of Claim 13 wherein the lightweight web is a nonwoven fabric.

Claim 15. The product of Claim 13 wherein the lightweight web is a paper web.

Claim 16. The product of Claim 13 wherein the lightweight web is a metal foil.

Claim 17. The product of Claim 13 wherein the lightweight web exhibits deformations when subjected to a tension of about 0.5 pli or less.

Claim 18. The product of Claim 13 wherein the lightweight web has a MD curl of less than about 3 inches as measured by TAPPI UM 427.

Claim 19. The product of Claim 13 wherein the polymer coating extruded onto the lightweight web is a polymeric film comprising a polymer selected from the group consisting of extruded low density polyethylene (LDPE), polyolefin plastomers (POP), polyolefin elastomers (POE), linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE), high density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene (PP), ethylene methyl acrylate copolymer (EMA), ethylene butyl acrylate copolymer (EnBA), ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA), ethylene acrylic acid copolymer (EAA), ethylene methyl acrylic acid copolymer (EMAA), ionomoers, ethylene vinyl alcohol (EVOH), polyesters such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyamides, and one or more of the foregoing.

Claim 20. The product of Claim 13 wherein the polymer coating comprises a coextrusion of at least two layers of polymer films.

Claim 21. A product formed according to the method of Claim 1.